

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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MT. VERNON MAN SENTENCED FOR METHAMPHETAMINE OFFENSES

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on October 3, 2006, **IVY GENE BOWLIN**, age 41, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. BOWLIN was sentenced to 360 months imprisonment, was fined \$750, and was placed on 5 years supervised release.

BOWLIN had previously pleaded guilty to a three count federal indictment, charging conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine, and two counts of distribution of methamphetamine.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort between the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration, and other state and local law enforcement pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County State's Attorney's Office, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.